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Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 00310 161048 Z

12
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 /098 W
---------- 078803
R 160910 Z APR 73
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2743
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0310

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: NA/ A
TAGS: PINT, SF
SUBJ: BOPHUTHATSWANA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY REJECTS SAG LAND CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL AND VOTES COUNTER- PROPOSAL.

1. IN COURSE OF ITS RECENT FIRST 1973. SESSION BOPHUTHATSWANA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNANIMOUSLY REJECTED SAG' S UNPUBLISHED LAND CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL FOR HOMELAND AND AGREED ON POSITION THAT HOMELAND SHOULD NOT ACCEPT INDEPENDENCE IF GOVERNMENT INSISTED ON IMPLEMENTING ITS PROPOSAL. SUPPOREDTD BY OPPOSITION, CHIEF MINISTER MANGOPE DECLARED THAT HOMELAND REJECTED 1936 LAND ACT AS BASIS FOR APPROACHING CONSOLIDATION QUESTION AND GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO IMPOSE ITS PROPOSAL.

2. TOWARD END OF SESSION LAST WEEK, ASSEMBLY UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED TERRITORIAL CLAIM DRAWN UP BY 2- PARTY SELECT COMMITTEE INVOLVING LARGE AREA IN NORTHERN CAPE AND WESTERN TRANSVAAL AND SMALL FRAGMENTS IN ORANGE FREE STATE. IF ACCEPTED, CLAIM WOULD GIVE BOPHUTHATSWANA CONTROL OVER AN AREA OF 8 MILLION HECTERS (AS LARGE AS FREE STATE), A NUMBER OF TOWNS, INCLUDING RUSTENBURG, ZEERUST, AND LICHTENBURG IN TRANSVAAL AND MAFEKING AND KURUMAN
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IN CAPE, WITH A WHITE POPULATION OF OVER HALF A MILLION, AND MUCH RICH MINIG LAND IN TRANSVAAL. MANGOPE TOLD ASSEMBLY THAT WHITES WHOSE PROPERTY WAS INCORPORATED INTO HOMELAND WOULD BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN IT AND WOULD BE WELCOMED TO BECOME BOPHUTHATSWANA CITIZENS.

3. COMMENTING ON THESE DEVELOPMENTS TO CONSUL GENERAL APRIL 12, MANGOPE EXPLAINED THAT SAG PROPOSED WOULD INVOLVE DISPLACEMENT OF OVER 150,000 OF HIS PEOPLE AND WOULD NOT GIVE HOMELAND ANY ADDITIONAL LAND. HE STATED FRANKLY THAT ASSEMBLY' S COUNTER-PROPOSAL WAS BARGAINING EXERCISE . SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO DIRECT GOVERNMENT REACTION TO IT, ALTHOUGH HE DID RECEIVE AT BEGINNING OF WEEK A MESSAGE FROM CAPE TOWN THROUGH SAG COMMISSIONER GENRAL IN MAFEKING INQUIRING WHETHER HOMELAND INTERRESTED IN PURCHASING WHITE TOWN ON MAFEKING. HE BELIEVES THAT SAG WILL PROBABLY PROCEED TO IMPSE ITS OWN CONSOLIDATION SCHEME.

4. ASSEMBLY CLAIM REACHED CAPE TOWN AT TIME WHEN SAG DEPARTMENT OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION REPORTEDLY COMPLETING ITS CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL FOR ALL HOMELANDS FOR SUBMISSION TO CABINET.

5. AFRICAN- EDITED WORLD COMMENTED APRIL 12 THAT IF MAN LIKE MANGOPE, WHO PREVIOUSLY TOOK CONCILIATORY POSITION ON LAND ISSUE, NOW FOUND IT NECESSARTY TO STATE SUCH CLAIMS, IT SHOULD BE EVIDENT TO SAG THAT BLACKS UNITED ON ISSUE. IT BECOMING INCREASINGLY OBVIOUS THAT SAG WILL HAVE TO CONSULT SERIOUSLY WITH AFRICANS ON ISSUE, SINCE WITHOUT THEIR COOPERATION SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT CANNOT WORK. DECONTROL FOLLOWING DECEMBER 31, 1973. LUTKINS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973JOHANN00310
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730443/aaaaiowc.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980120
Subject: BOPHUTHATSWANA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY REJECTS SAG LAND CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL AND VOTES COUNTER-PROPOSAL.
TAGS: PINT, SF
To: AF
CAPE TOWN
DURBAN
PRETORIA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

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